

RENTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

February 2, 1998 Council Chambers
Monday, 7:30 p.m. Municipal Building

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jesse Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS

BOB EDWARDS, Council President; RANDY CORMAN; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER; KING PARKER; DAN CLAWSON; KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER; TONI NELSON.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

JESSE TANNER, Mayor; JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; DAVID DEAN, Assistant City Attorney; MARILYN PETERSEN, City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; SUE CARLSON, Economic Development, Neighborhoods and Strategic Planning Administrator; MICHAEL KATTERMANN, Director of Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning; PETER ROSEN, Senior Planner; CHIEF GARRY ANDERSON, Police Department.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 1998, AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING

Development Services Sign
Code Amendments
(Automall Freestanding
Signs, Electronic Msg
Boards)

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Tanner opened the public hearing to consider the proposed Sign Code amendments to allow larger freestanding signs in the Automall; and to allow electronic message board signs in commercial and industrial areas.

Peter Rosen, Senior Planner, explained that the first proposed change would allow larger freestanding signs for auto dealerships located in the Automall area. Meant as an incentive for dealerships to locate to the Automall, it would increase the maximum allowable size of freestanding signs by 50 square feet, per sign face, for these businesses.

Mr. Rosen said the amendment would give auto dealerships in the Automall two alternatives for signage, as follows:

1. One freestanding sign per street frontage, up to a maximum of 200 square feet per sign face (previously limited to 150 square feet per sign face); or
2. One smaller freestanding sign per street frontage along with two accessory ground signs. The freestanding sign would be limited to a maximum of 150 square feet per sign face (previously limited to 100 square feet per sign face).

Continuing, Mr. Rosen said the second proposed amendment would allow electronic message board signs in commercial and industrial zones, in response

to the increasing demand for these signs. Electronic message board signs are currently prohibited with 75 feet of all public rights-of-way.

Audience comment was invited.

Frank Gonzales, 3403 - 16th St., Everett, 98201, representing Jerry Solomon's used cars, said Renton's Board of Adjustment denied this dealership's request for a variance that would allow it to have an electronic message board sign. He therefore supported the change to allow these signs, and asked that the required setback be no greater than ten feet.

Mr. Rosen confirmed that in the Automall area, the setback for freestanding signs is ten feet, whereas the setback for accessory ground signs is twenty feet.

Councilman Corman expressed concern that the advanced technology of some electronic message board signs yields TV-like resolution. He feared these could be distracting to drivers. Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler responded that before any action is taken to expand the use of these signs, the City Attorney's office will research information on how they -- and their content -- can be regulated.

There being no further public comment, it was **MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.**

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL REFER THIS MATTER BACK TO THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. CARRIED. (See page 43 for additional discussion.)

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City's recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 1998 and beyond. Items noted included:

- * A new program, TV-W, has been added to Renton's government access channel lineup. The program provides unedited coverage of State government deliberations and public policy events of statewide significance.
- * Another new feature on the government access channel will attempt to find owners of lost pets picked up by Renton's Animal Control officer.
- * Bill Larson, who retired from the Fire Department last year, was selected as the 1997 Firefighter of the Year.
- * The Army Corps of Engineers issued a nationwide permit for the SR-167 Culvert Improvement Project, a joint project between Renton's Surface Water Utility and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

AUDIENCE COMMENT Citizen Comment Evans - Annual Zoning Map Adoption

Ralph Evans, 3306 NE 11th Pl., Renton, 98056, stated his strong disagreement with the fact that in the event of a discrepancy between Renton's approved rezone ordinances and its official Zoning Map, the map is the designated authority. Saying it should be the other way around, with the ordinances ruling in the event of any conflict, he noted that zoning ordinances are adopted throughout the year, but

the last official Zoning Map was adopted in August of 1996. According to Renton's Code, however, the 1996 map would prevail in the event of a conflict, even though it does not reflect any of the zoning changes made in 1997.

Mayor Tanner agreed that Mr. Evans has raised a good point, which the Administration will have the City Attorney look into.

Citizen Comment Blakley -
Building Moratorium
Request (Newcastle Hook)

Karin Blakley, 2112 NE 50th St., Renton, 98056, asked for assurance that Renton received the proper information from the City of Newcastle regarding the requested building moratorium on the "hook" area to be deannexed from Renton to Newcastle.

Mayor Tanner confirmed that the City Council of Newcastle did officially ask that Renton impose such a moratorium. (See later this page for resolution declaring the moratorium.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

Zoning 1997 Map Book
and Wall Map Adoption

Economic Development, Neighborhoods and Strategic Planning Department recommended adoption of the Zoning Map Book and Zoning Wall Map, both of which reflect zoning and technical changes approved in 1997. Council concur. (See page 43 for ordinance.)

Plat Estates at Hidden
Creek, 860 Chelan Ave
NE, PP-97-050

Hearing Examiner recommended approval, with conditions, of the Estates at Hidden Creek preliminary plat; 12 lots on 1.5 acres located at 860 Chelan Ave. NE, File No. PP-97-050. Council concur.

CAG 95-079, SR-900
HOV/Houser Way
Relocation, Kulchin-
Condon & Assoc

Transportation Systems Division submitted CAG-95-079, SR-900 HOV/Houser Way Relocation project; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of \$28,686.62, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of \$298,324.67 to Kulchin-Condon & Associates, contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

Transportation Drive
Carefully for Our Children's
Sake Neighborhood Signs

Transportation Systems Division suggested installing signs reading "Drive Carefully for Our Children's Sake" at entrances to neighborhood portals in lieu of oft-requested "Children at Play" signs, and submitted proposed guidelines and procedures for installing such signs. Refer to Transportation Committee.

CAG 97-114, NE Sunset
Blvd Channelization, Stripe
Rite

Transportation Systems Division submitted CAG-97-114, NE Sunset Blvd. Channelization project; and requested approval of the project, authorization for final pay estimate in the amount of \$370.00, commencement of 60-day lien period, and release of retained amount of \$1,443.03 to Stripe Rite, Inc., contractor, if all required releases are obtained. Council concur.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The following resolution was presented for reading and adoption:

Resolution #3303

Building Building
Moratorium Request
(Newcastle Hook)

A resolution was read declaring a moratorium on building permits, land use permits and subdivision permits on property located generally north and south of NE 51st and NE 50th Streets, between Lake Washington Blvd. NE and 114th Ave. SE, commonly referred to as the "hook" area, and setting a public hearing on February 23, 1998, to take testimony on whether the moratorium should be continued. MOVED BY SCHLITZER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

The following ordinance was presented for first reading and referred to the Council meeting of 2/09/98 for second and final reading:

Zoning 1997 Map Book
and Wall Map Adoption

An ordinance was read adopting the 1997 amendments to the zoning classifications of properties located within the City of Renton. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 2/09/98. CARRIED.

The following ordinances were presented for second and final reading:

Ordinance #4703

Development Services
Construction Mitigation
Measures (Formerly SEPA)

An ordinance was read amending Sections 4-10-12, 4-18-4, 4-32.6.H and 4-36-5 of Title IV (Building Regulations), and Section 8-1-4.K of Title VIII (Health and Sanitation) of City Code by adding regularly-imposed SEPA mitigation measures as development standards. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #4704

Development Services
Temporary Dwellings for
Medical Hardships

An ordinance was read amending subsections 4-31-4.1.B.6, 4-31-4.2.B.6, 4-31-4.3.B.6, 4-31-5.B.6, 4-31-6.B.6 and 4-31-7.B.6 of Chapter 31, Zoning Code, of Title IV (Building Regulations) of City Code by adding park trailers and recreational vehicles as allowed types of temporary dwellings for cases of medical hardships. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #4705

Legal Sitting or Lying on
Public Sidewalks after 900
p.m.

An ordinance was read amending subsection 6-25-4.A of Chapter 25, Pedestrian Interference, of Title VI (Police Regulations) of City Code by extending the prohibition on sitting or lying on public sidewalks until 12:00 midnight. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS

PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

WSDOT Ramp Metering
Limit Line on I-405 at NE
30th St On-Ramp

Councilman Corman expressed concern about a "limit line" presumably laid by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) on the northbound on-ramp of I-405 at NE 30th Street. Saying the line appears to be compatible with a ramp metering system, he asked that the Administration look into whether it should be removed since it constitutes a hazard, and ramp metering will not occur in Renton anytime soon.

City Clerk Channel 28
Programming and Schedule

On another subject, Councilman Corman complimented the City Clerk's Office and the Animal Control Officer for the new feature on Renton's government channel that advertises lost animals in an attempt to locate their owners. Council President Edwards added that this channel now has a variety of programming. He suggested that its schedule be made available via CitySource, Renton's monthly newsletter to its citizens.

City Clerk Marilyn Petersen replied that a programming schedule for Channel 28 is aired at the beginning of each hour. Staff is also considering including the schedule on the City's web site.

AUDIENCE COMMENT

Citizen Comment Bryant -
Sign Code Amendment for
Automall Freestanding
Signs

Bruce Bryant, 2903 SW 115th St., Seattle, 98146, representing Michael Scarff, asked that Council split the issues of the proposed Sign Code amendments and move forward on the Automall freestanding signs matter. He felt the latter change could be handled separately from the issue of electronic message board signs, which Council has indicated it is not yet ready to act on.

Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler agreed, noting it is Council's intention to proceed in the manner suggested by Mr. Bryant.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 8:23 p.m.

MARILYN J. PETERSEN, CMC, City Clerk

Recorder: Brenda Fritsvold
2/02/98